

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

SB 302 By Senator Appel

KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY. Requires BESE to assign letter grades to public schools and school districts reflective of their performance. (8/15/10)

SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL

1. Adds condition that the letter grade system developed by BESE not be implemented until approved by a favorable vote of a majority of members of the House and Senate committees on education. (Constitutionally defective. Bill title and body need to be corrected to reflect enactment of new subsection.)

DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE

Appel (SB 302)

Proposed law provides that in addition to any other performance related labels or designations assigned to public schools and school districts pursuant to the school and district accountability system, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, in consultation with parents, teachers, school administrators, and other education stakeholders, shall develop a letter grade system reflective of school and district performance that shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. Assignment of a letter grade to each public elementary and secondary school and school district based upon the current method of determining school and district performance scores. Provides that any school that has been labeled academically unacceptable shall be assigned a grade of "F".
2. Inclusion of the letter grade assigned to each public school and school district in the school report cards compiled by the Dept. of Education and distributed to parents and in any public release of school and district performance scores.
3. Recognition of high performing, high poverty schools and high schools with graduation rates that exceed the state average when information relative to school and district performance scores and letter grades are publicly released.

Provides that the letter grade system developed by BESE not be implemented until approved by a favorable vote of a majority of members of the House and Senate committees on education.

Effective August 15, 2010.

(Adds R.S. 17:10.1(D))

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